authorised the President of the Council, i.e., the Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare to take appropriate decisions, on behalf of the Governing body.

**Railway Reforms Committee**

2605. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:
SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA:
MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railway Reforms Committee has recommended the regrouping of the Indian Railways into 12 zones instead of the present nine zones and also creation of new divisions;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what decision Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHOUDHURY): (a) and (b) The Railway Reforms Committee in their recent Report on Regrouping of Railways have recommended formation of four additional zones viz. East Central Zone, North Western Zone, North Central Zone and South Western Zone. The Committee have also recommended formation of divisions at the following places:—

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Ambala . . . | (N. Rly.) |
| 2. | Bhopal . . . | (C. Rly.) |
| 3. | Malda . . . | (E. Rly.) |
| 4. | Ahmedabad . . | (W. Rly.) |
| 5. | Rourkela . . . | (S.E. Rly.) |
| 6. | Singrauli . . | (E. Rly.) |
| 7. | Usalapur . . . | (S.E. Rly.) |
| 8. | Guntur . . . | (S.C. Rly.) |
| 9. | Chittaurgarh . . | (W. Rly.) |
| 10. | Ghaziabad . . | (N. Rly.) |
| 11. | Tinsukia . . . | (N.F. Rly.) |

(c) Setting up of Ambala, Bhopal and Malda Divisions have already been sanctioned and administrative decision has also been taken for creation of divisions at Ahmedabad and Sambalpur. No decision of new Zones and the remaining divisions.

**Increase in quota of kerosene to Kerala**

2606. SHRI C. HARIDAS: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any request from the Kerala Government for increasing the quota of kerosene to that State;

(b) what is the present quota of the State and the quantum of increase requested;

(c) what action has been taken by Government on the request; and

(d) if the present quota has not been increased, what are the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI M. S. SANJEEVI RAO): (a) and (b) The Government of Kerala have recently requested for enhancement of the monthly kerosene quota of the State from 13,390 tonnes to 15,000 tonnes.

(c) and (d) An additional allocation of 500 tonnes and 1000 tonnes for July and for August, 1984, respectively, has been made for Kerala.

**Electrification of Railway lines in Kerala**

2607. SHRI C. HARIDAS: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal under consideration to electrify railway lines in Kerala;

(b) if so, what action has been taken to implement the same; and

(c) by when the electrification of Palghat-Ernakulam line is proposed to be taken up?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHOUDHURY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

**Ground-water project for Kerala**

2608. SHRI C. HARIDAS: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Ground Water Project for Kerala has been undertaken to find out the ground water potential in the State;

(b) if so, what is the amount of money sanctioned for this project;

(c) by when it is likely to be completed; and

(d) what are the names of the towns selected for this project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION (SHRI HARI NATH MISHRA): (a) and (b) The Central Ground Water Board has taken up a project to evaluate the ground water resource potential of the various hydrogeological units in Kerala, in collaboration with the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA). An expenditure of Rs. 127.72 lakhs is expected to be incurred on the project studies by the Government of India in addition to the Swedish contribution of 6.9 million Swedish Kroner (Equivalent to Rs. 91.9 lakhs approx.).

(c) The project would be completed in a period of 4 years ending October, 1987.

(d) The project covers the entire area of the State between Ponnani river in the north to Attingal (Vamanapuram) river in the south and includes all towns, cities and villages in the districts of Trichur, Ernakulam, Idukki, Kottayam, Alleppey, Quilon and Trivendrum in full and parts of Palghat and Mallapuram districts.

**Extension of Rail line to Jiribam in Manipur**

2609. SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH:
SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQUE:
SHRI HUSEN DALWAI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what progress has been made in extending the railway line to Jiribam in Manipur and the total cost incurred thereon; and

(b) by when the project is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHOUDHURY): (a) Work is in progress on construction of new M.G. rail line from Silchar to Jiribam. Its present progress is 19 per cent. Against an estimated cost Rs. 26.68 crores, expenditure upto 31.3.84 is Rs. 7.15 crores and outlay in 1984-85 is Rs. 3.75 crores.

(b) Its completion will depend on transfer of land by State Government to Railways and availability of resources in the coming years.

**Irrigation Projects**

2610. SHRI HUSEN DALWAI:
SHRI GHULAM RASOOL KAR:

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the State-wise breakup of total acreage of cultivable land brought under irrigation so far;

(b) what are the major irrigation projects in hand at present;

(c) when these are likely to be completed; and

(d) what is the extent of are likely to be irrigated by these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION (SHRI HARI NATH MISHRA): (a) Statement